

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please replace paragraph [005] with the following amended paragraph:**

[005] ~~This object is achieved by the dishwasher according to the invention having the features of claim 1. Advantageous further developments of the invention are characterised in the dependent claims 2 to 10.~~ The dishwasher according to the invention comprises at least one washing container for receiving items to be washed and a system for recognition of the fluid level of the rinsing fluid contained in the dishwasher, wherein at least one capacitive filling level sensor is provided whose electrical capacitance changes on contact with the rinsing fluid.

**Please replace paragraph [014] with the following amended paragraph:**

[014] The area of the filling level sensor which comes in contact with the rinsing liquid can have any shape. However, a qualitative determination of the liquid level by means of a single filling level sensor is favoured if the area of the filling level sensor which comes in contact with the rinsing liquid has aan extended, substantially rectangular shape. If a filling level sensor having a rectangular contact area is disposed vertically in the washing container of the dishwasher, as the liquid level rises an increasingly larger area of the filling level sensor is covered with rinsing liquid. As a result of the increasing contact area between the filling level sensor and the rinsing liquid, the electrical capacitance of the filling level sensor varies successively. This variation can be detected and evaluated by the electronic means connected to the filling level sensor in order to determine the exact fluid level therefrom.

**Please replace paragraph [021] with the following amended paragraph:**

[021] In order that the fluid level in the dishwasher can be determined as accurately as possible, the filling level sensor is located inside the washing container preferably at a location protected from spray water. This can avoid the determination of the fluid level in the dishwasher being falsified by spray water which can come in contact with the filling level sensor during washing. For easy mounting of the filling level sensor it is particularly advantageous if a fixing strip of the filling level sensor is provided with a self-adhesive layer. In this way, the filling level sensor can easily be ~~position~~positioned

on the wall of the washing container, for example, without needing to damage this for screw fixings or similar.

**Please replace paragraph [024] with the following amended paragraph:**

[024] The filling level sensors 1 and 2 consist of electrically conducting material and are each connected by an electrical lead to a sensor circuit which detects and ~~evaluation~~evaluates the change in the electrical capacitance of the filling level sensors. The sensor circuit comprises one or more integrated circuits specially programmed to evaluate the signals delivered by the filling level sensors. The result of this evaluation is passed from the sensor circuit via an output lead to the program controller of the dishwasher which, if necessary, initiates measures to change the level of the rinsing fluid in the dishwasher, such as opening a valve for the fresh water supply, actuating the lye pump to pump out rinsing fluid from the dishwasher or activating a warning that rinsing fluid has flowed out of the washing container into the base assembly of the dishwasher.